

2nd Sunday of Matthew

Sunday, June 21, 2020

St. John the Baptist Greek Orthodox Church



SYNAXARION: Julian the Martyr of Tarsus; Terentios, Bishop of Iconium; Nikitas the New Martyr of Nisyros

Ressurrectional Apolytikon (1st Tone): The stone that had been sealed before Your tomb by the Judeans and the soldiers guarding did watch over Your pure and sacred Body. O Savior, the third day You arose, and unto all the world did You give life. Whereby all the heavenly powers did proclaim that You are the Giver of Life: Glory unto our Resurrected Christ; Glory unto Your Kingdom; Glory to Your dispensation, O You Who alone loves all.

Apolytikon of St. John the Baptist: The memory of the just is observed with hymns of praise; for you O Forerunner the witness of the Lord is sufficient. You have proved to be truly more venerable than the prophets. Since you were granted to baptize in the river, the One Whom they proclaimed. Therefore, you strove for truth, proclaiming with joy the Good News, even to those in Hades: that God was manifested in the flesh, and takes away the sins of the world, and grants to us His great mercy.

Kontakion: A protection of Christians unshamable, intercessor to our Holy Maker unwavering, reject not, the prayerful cries of those who are in sin. Instead, come to us for you are good, your loving help bring unto us, who are crying in faith to you. Hasten to intercede and speed now to supplicate, as a protection for all time, Theotokos for those who honor you.

Readings for 2nd Sunday of Matthew

Epistle Reading is from Romans 2:10-16

Brethren, glory and honor and peace for every one who does good, the Jew first and also the Greek. For God shows no partiality. All who have sinned without the law will also perish without the law, and all who have sinned under the law will be judged by the law. For it is not the hearers of the law who are righteous before God, but the doers of the law who will be justified. When Gentiles who have not the law do by nature what the law requires, they are a law to themselves, even though they do not have the law. They show that what the law requires is written on their hearts, while their conscience also bears witness and their conflicting thoughts accuse or perhaps excuse them on that day when, according to my gospel, God judges the secrets of men by Christ Jesus.

Gospel Reading is from Matthew 10:32-33; 37-38; 19:27-30

At that time, as Jesus walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon who is called Peter and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea; for they were fishermen. And he said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men." Immediately they left their nets and followed him. And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them. Immediately they left their boat and their father, and followed him. And he went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and preaching the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every infirmity among the people.

Fifty-Two Verses in Fifty-Two Weeks: The Bible Project

June 21-27

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, He asked His disciples, "Who do men say that the Son of Man is?" And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." He said to them, "But who to you say that I am?" Simon Peter replied, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." Matthew 16: 13-16

Normally for these Bible verses, I choose one verse that will be easy to memorize. The actual verse to memorize is in bold, but the other verses are necessary to give this one context. Jesus asked His disciples who did they say He is. They gave answers about what "others" were saying about Jesus. Then Jesus made it personal—who do YOU say that I am. This question is very pointed and very personal. There is no "let's say what is popular or what we should say." Simon Peter confessed Jesus as the Christ, the Son of the living God. How do YOU answer this question? Who is Jesus Christ to you? If we are honest, for many of us He is an insurance policy, only called upon in times of trouble. For others, He is a crutch when we are unsure. For others, He is something to do, something to belong to. For others, He is a good role model for children. For others, He is a moral authority. He is our Lord and Savior, our guide, our purpose, our destination, our present, our future, our everything. At least, that is who He is supposed to be for us. He is these things, the question is, is He these things for you? Answer these questions, "Who do YOU say that He is?" and "who is He for you?"

Upcoming Services & Events

Sunday, June 21	2nd Sunday of Matthew <i>(via Live-stream, and via reservation with Sign-up genius)</i> Orthros 8:45 a.m. Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.
Monday, June 22	Bible Study (via Zoom) 6:30 p.m.
Tuesday, June 23	Parish Council Meeting (via Zoom) 6:30 p.m.
Wednesday, June 24	Nativity of St. John Orthros 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m. Paraklesis Service of Supplication to the Virgin Mary 6:00 p.m.
Saturday, June 27	Orthros 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.
Sunday, June 28	Third Sunday of Matthew Orthros 8:45 a.m. Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.
Monday, June 29	Sts. Peter and Paul Orthros 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.
Tuesday, June 30	Holy Apostles Orthros 5:00 p.m. Divine Liturgy 6:00 p.m. (GOYAns and Parents are requested to sign up for the Liturgy)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We raised \$5,154 for Matthew 25 to feed the hungry in Tampa. Our initial goal was \$2,000. We exceeded that by \$3,154. Great job St. John's Community!

SignUpGenius for the rest of the June services. The remaining scheduled services for June are available on our website. Please be looking out for that. We ask that those who wish to worship on Sunday only sign up for one of the two remaining Sundays of June—June 21 or June 28. You may sign up for as many of the weekday services as possible. Divine Liturgy will be held each Saturday and on some weekdays to afford people who wish to worship more often to do so. If you are able to worship not on Sundays, we encourage you not to come on Sundays. However, our goal is to have as many as 75 worshippers at every service, so if you see on a Saturday or even a Sunday morning that that liturgy is not full, please feel free to add your name at the last minute. **If you see that the Liturgy for a Sunday is not filled by Friday afternoon, anyone may add their name to the Sunday list.**

Youth Liturgy—Saturday, June 27—We are encouraging all of our Sunday school students and parents of our elementary school students, pre-school students and toddlers to sign up to attend the Divine Liturgy on Saturday, June 27. Fr. Stavros will offer a children's sermon at the end of the liturgy. And with this liturgy geared toward our young people, there will be no need to worry about if they are fidgety.

GOYA Liturgy—Tuesday, June 30—Honoring our Seniors—On Tuesday, June 30, Divine Liturgy will be celebrated at 6:00 p.m. We are encouraging our GOYAns and parents to attend this Liturgy. Following Liturgy, from 7:00-8:00 p.m. we will have a GOYA meeting in the church. We will honor our senior GOYAns who have now graduated from high school. They will all be invited to address a few words to our younger GOYAns as we do each year at the last GOYA meeting.

To read our “**Joyful Coming Back to Church**” protocol, please go **HERE**.

To watch a helpful video about returning to church, please go **HERE**.

*The Sunday School lesson for Toddlers - 5th Grade is **HERE**.*

*The Sunday school lesson for adults and teens is **HERE**.*

Check out EngageOrthodoxy.net

Engage Orthodoxy (EO) is a Pan-Orthodox Christian community seeking to foster communion among all people. EO serves as a home for resources for orthodox and non-orthodox christians alike as we collectively pursue and inquire after the ancient faith. “Engage Orthodoxy” is not only the name of this new site, but it is also the name of a movement away from division and towards unity. Engage Orthodoxy is a movement towards community, involvement, Orthodox friendships, and relationships. EO seeks to bring the the faithful, the curious, the lost, and the searching TOWARDS their faith and Christ and in turn, towards each other. Engage Orthodoxy is a movement forward into the future of the faith. Join us as we move toward Christ, toward each other, and toward the church.

Youth Worker Registration Begins in July

Attention all youth workers and ministry leaders. July begins the registration period for fall volunteers who wish to work with a children’s ministry or participate in certain leadership positions. Many of you already complied with the new GOA guidelines this past fall and will only have to complete online training and reregister. Others will need to register, undergo a background check and complete the online training. The Youth Protection Committee will e-mail all existing youth workers of their current status and requirements, including the registration form. Within a week or so afterwards, you will receive emails from Praesidium (aka:Armatus Learn to Protect) with links to complete the requirements. Please do so within ten days or the links expire. Thank you, Catherine Mitseas!

Please visit, <http://stjohntpa.org/youth-safety/> for more info.

Prayer List: Lord Jesus Christ, Physician of our Souls and Bodies, visit and heal your servants: George and Toula Tsaros, Fr. Pat Legato, Nellie Pringle, Robert Calbi, Yolanda Webb, Angela Bougas, Tony Ekonomou, Ron, Jason Vickers, Rex Garrison, Tina Chakonas, Ann Demas, Alex Martinez, Adriana Martinez, Aaron Martinez, Christina Noel Kouzes Houck, Evangeline Xeroteris, Nichole Ross, Daniel Ross, Daniella Ross, Ashley Henderson, Natalie Henderson, Chris, Debbie, James, Avery, Lily, Jacob, Jesse, Ann, Rosario, Antonia Caffentzis, Alissa, John, Angela, Joey, Christine Scourtes, Steven, Matthew & Family, Phyllis, John Zelatis, Reagan, Peter Zaharis, Alexandra Ferrarolis, Leon & Despina Botham, Cindy Xenick, Mary Ellen Evdemon, Marie Sofia Panagopoulos, Maria Hursey, Chris Vamvakias, John Myer, Mike Trimis, Robert and Alice Stoccardo, John Alexander, Michael Romero, George Hambos, Dean Kondilis and Family, Bill and Nancy Manikas, Patricia Costello, Anastasia Smyrnakis, Ekaterina & Anna Shushaalykova, Dora Koudouna, Ana Mourer, Debbie Phelps, Mary Voykin, David Voykin, Anne Sakellaris, Denise Badrane, Sia Blankenship, Don Payne, Zhana Temelkova, Stanislava Terzieva, James, Jude and all victims of war, terrorism, crime, natural disaster, and all of whom we are unaware.